## **Child Development Characteristics**

	Primary Task	Intellectual (Cognitive)	Emotional	Social	Moral	Physical
Birth- 18 months	Focus is on developing trust – Accomplishment of this is highly dependent on the parents or other caregivers providing care.  • The child's self-concept as a lovable and worthwhile person has its roots in this age period  • Since trust is a major building block for all relationships, every area of development is likely to be affected by the events of this stage	<ul> <li>Recognizes objects- people</li> <li>Makes choices</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Expresses joy and anger</li> <li>Separation anxiety</li> <li>Fears strangers</li> <li>Cuddles</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Smiles at people</li> <li>Laughs</li> <li>Plays peek a boo</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cries to "no"</li> <li>Aware of simple right-wrong</li> <li>Responds to rewards</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Holds head</li> <li>Sits alone</li> <li>Walks</li> <li>Holds bottle</li> <li>Vocal sounds</li> </ul>
18 months 3 years	To establish a distinct self, separate from parent figures.  The primary needs are increased control over feeding and toilet habits, without experiencing rejection or harm from too much independence.  The child begins to learn about limits  Child gets angry easily; likes to assert himself, and his favorite word is "NO!"  This period is especially connected to physical growth, especially the capacity to walk, run, climb and control elimination.	<ul> <li>Speaks words</li> <li>Says Yes-No</li> <li>Names objects</li> <li>Names people</li> <li>Simple play skills</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hugs &amp; kisses</li> <li>Hits when angry</li> <li>Tantrums</li> <li>Assertiveness</li> <li>Resistance</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Parallel play</li> <li>Little sharing</li> <li>Aware of peers</li> <li>Likes attention</li> <li>Independence from others</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Simple rules</li> <li>Likes to please</li> <li>Likes to resist</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Rides toys</li> <li>Climbs stairs</li> <li>Potty training</li> <li>Move objects</li> <li>Runs</li> </ul>
3-7 Years	To develop a sense of reality that is distinct from fantasy.  Primary concern of the child is sex differences, and it includes interest in pregnancy and birth.  Period of high creativity  Strong need to make distinctions between what is real and what is imagined.	<ul> <li>Increased vocabulary</li> <li>Listen to stories</li> <li>Imaginary playmates</li> <li>Give-Follows directions</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Words express feelings</li> <li>Sensitiveness</li> <li>Embarrassment</li> <li>Shyness</li> <li>Fears</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Give and take</li> <li>Serious play</li> <li>Open to world</li> <li>Cooperation</li> <li>Sharing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Guilt develops</li> <li>Right &amp; wrong not consistent</li> <li>Makes &amp; follows rules</li> <li>Ownership &amp; rights.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Dances, jumps</li> <li>High activity</li> <li>Climbs</li> <li>Fine motor coordination development</li> </ul>

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7-12 Years	To develop a sense of values to guide decision making and interests as well as capabilities that lay the foundation for future decisions.  Needs of the child revolve around tasks, hobbies, and skill-oriented activities.  Friendship with peers, especially of the same sex is important Competition is heightened, as is preoccupation with performance	<ul> <li>Reading</li> <li>Arithmetic</li> <li>Musical instruments</li> <li>Complicated games</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Begin to have empathy &amp; understand feelings</li> <li>Self Esteem</li> <li>Embarrassment</li> <li>Regresses under stress</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Games-teams</li> <li>Community &amp; world concepts</li> <li>Interested in others and world</li> <li>Friends</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Right &amp; wrong are black-white</li> <li>No gray</li> <li>Fairness</li> <li>Values</li> <li>Citizenship</li> <li>Respect others</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Refines skills</li> <li>Increases Abilities</li> </ul>
12-18 Years	Two main tasks:  To create a personal identity based on the integration of values and a sense of self. The adolescent must establish an identity in relation to society, the opposite sex, ideas, the future, possible vocations and the universe.  The establishment of independence. This can create tension with the family over limits, values, responsibilities, friends, and plans for the future.	<ul> <li>Concepts</li> <li>Words</li> <li>Mental skills</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Moods</li> <li>Extremes</li> <li>Regressions</li> <li>Privacy</li> <li>Emotional</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Sexuality</li> <li>Friends more important than family</li> <li>Independence</li> <li>Fads</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Explores values of self-others</li> <li>World view</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Refines skills</li> <li>Increases abilities</li> <li>Becomes more proficient</li> </ul>